

ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus are disclosed for changing the bandwidth (or other traffic characteristic) of an established packet call in response to an identification of the requirements of the call. These methods and apparatus may be used, *inter alia*, in a computer or communications system, such as an integrated access device ("IAD"), computer device, packet switching system, router, or other device or components thereof.

In one implementation, an IAD is used to connect one or more packet network non-compliant telephonic devices, such as, but not limited to telephones, modems and facsimile devices, to a packet network (e.g., an ATM network). When a packet network non-compliant device goes off-hook, a call is established through the packet network with an initial bandwidth, such as that which will support a compressed and silence suppressed voice call. The IAD monitors the received packet network non-compliant telephonic signal to determine whether a type of traffic is detected which requires a different call characterization, such as, but not limited to a higher bandwidth than the original bandwidth available with the established call. If such a call characterization is detected, then a request is made to the packet network to modify the traffic characterization of the established call to match the detected call characterization. In an ATM network, Q.9231.x as recommended by the International Telecommunication Union may be used to request a change in the bandwidth of the originally established call. For example, calls may initially placed at a lower bandwidth to save allocation of unneeded resources, which typically equates to cost savings to a customer. Then, the established call can automatically be modified to the higher bandwidth required to support the traffic carried by a call.